

UPPER ELEM Flight Plan March 8th



Lesson	Three Parables
Bible Passage	Luke 15
Story Point	Jesus came to seek and save the lost.
Key Passage	<p>“He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. In Him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.” Colossians 1:13-14</p>
Big Picture Q & A	<p>How does God care for His creation?</p> <p>God loves and rules over His creation according to His perfect plan.</p>





Storyboard Scenes
Look at each reference in the Bible. Draw a picture from each scene.

Luke 15:11-12

Luke 15:20-24

Luke 15:25-32

Going Home
Find the path from the shepherd and his sheep to the flock of sheep.

© 2007 CMV

leader bible study

In Luke 19, Jesus went after Zacchaeus, a chief tax collector. Zacchaeus was not well liked, but his interaction with Jesus led him to repent of his wrongdoing. Jesus said to him, “The Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost” (Luke 19:10).

Who are “the lost”? What does it mean to be lost? In Luke 15, Jesus told three parables to the crowd of tax collectors, sinners, Pharisees, and scribes. Jesus’ teaching brought gospel truth to the tax collectors and sinners—those whose unrighteousness separated them from God—and to the Pharisees and scribes—those whose relied on their own righteous efforts for salvation.

The first two parables are similar. In one, a man loses a sheep. He leaves his flock to find the missing sheep, and he rejoices when it is found. In the second, a woman loses a silver coin. The woman carefully searches until she finds it. Then she calls her neighbors and friends to celebrate with her. Heaven rejoices when even one sinner repents. Finally, Jesus told a parable about two sons. The younger son asked for his inheritance, wasted his money on immoral living, and decided to return to his father. Rather than rejecting his wayward son, the father embraced him. The older son, who had always been obedient to his father, reacted with anger.

As you read Luke 15, think about the crowd Jesus was speaking to. The focus is often placed on the younger son—the one with whom the tax collectors and sinners could identify—but Jesus also made a point about the older son. The older son was like the Pharisees and scribes, focused on his own morality and feeling entitled to his father’s favor.

Jesus taught what God is like. He seeks sinners who have wandered far from Him, and He seeks sinners who try to earn salvation by their good works. As you teach, help kids understand that being lost means not knowing Jesus as Lord and Savior. God loves us, and He actively seeks to bring sinners to Himself.

Vision for Grace Airways
We navigate the scriptures,
training up bold disciples,
on our ongoing journey to Jesus!

Gospel—Centered Preparation:

The heart of preparation is rooted in your understanding of the gospel and your personal application of the story.

After your study ask yourself:

- How do the verse and Big Picture Question connect to this story?
- What am I excited to teach from this passage?
- The main point this week is: _____
- Where is the gospel in this story?

March Focus: The Kingdom to Come



MAR 1st: Kingdom Parables *Matthew 13*

Story point: God's growing kingdom is more valuable than anything.



MAR 8th: Three Parables *Luke 15*

Story Point: Jesus came to seek and save the lost.



MAR 15th: Jesus' Hard Teachings *John 6*

Story Point: Many people misunderstood Jesus' teachings.



MAR 22nd: Jesus Raised Lazarus *John 11*

Story Point: Jesus has power over death.



MAR 29th: The Last Supper/Palm Sunday!

Story Point: Jesus commanded His disciples to remember His sacrifice .



Co-Pilot—Included Preparation:

On a Sunday morning, the Pilot is leading everyone in our ongoing journey to Jesus— that includes both flyers and Co-Pilots! The more consistency and continuity we have between Pilots, the better we can prepare our helpers to succeed and grow! With that consistency comes the mentorship aspect for our youth volunteers in particular, and utilizing our adult co-pilots as well: sharing activities, engaging them in the morning, and encouraging their involvement.

As you prepare for the lesson, ask yourself:

- Does my planning allow for Co-Pilot participation throughout the morning?
- How did I prepare my Co-Pilot to help with classroom management?
- What specific activities will my Co-Pilot assist with today?
- In what ways can I encourage my Co-Pilot?

Engagement

- Sit with child during the story
- Playing alongside flyers
- Reengage chatty/distracted kids
- Ask to volunteer an example during discussion
- Help play to Co-Pilot's strengths

Activities

- Attendance stickers
- Timeline
- Joining in the verse and BPQ&A
- Assigned to a specific flyer
- Helping find books in the Bible
- Leading crafts & songs

Encouragement

- Thank you for stepping in there!
- You did a great job with _____.
- You really helped me while I was _____.
- Thank you for being _____'s buddy today.
- Your help really made this morning go smoothly.
- _____ was the right thing to do. You handled it well!
- I'm so glad you are here today!

Sunday Morning Flight Plan



Take Off

- Open in Prayer
- Hook
- BPO and A & Key Passage
- Timeline & Introduce Story

10 Min

Journey

- Attendance & Bible Sticker
- Bible Story
- God's Attributes

15 Min

Flight Lab

- Experience of the Bible Story
(Make connections through an activity & motion)

15 Min

Pilot's Log

- Pray
- Calm activity during pick-up
- Give activity sheets to parents as they pick up students

5 Min

PICK UP:

First Service:
Around 9:45

Second Service:
Around 11:45



10 min Take Off

Celebrate being here! Introduce the morning.

Open in Prayer

Hook

Prompt kids to tell about a time they lost or misplaced something that was very important to them. Did they ever find it? Where was it? It can feel very scary or frustrating to lose or misplace items that are important to us. But the joy we feel if we finally find it again is very special. Today we will learn about three stories Jesus told about people finding what they had lost. These stories will help us understand God's love for people.

Big Picture Question

How does God care for His creation? That's an important question because the Bible tells us that all of creation is under God's rule. In God's kingdom, He reigns over all. God is a good King, and He cares for His creation. How does ***God care for His creation? God loves and rules over His creation according to His perfect plan.***

Key Passage

Show the key passage poster. Lead the boys and girls to read together

Colossians 1:13-14 • Before we trust in Jesus, we are dead in our sin and are separated from God. Everyone who trusts in Him has forgiveness and new life with Him forever. He frees us from sin and brings us into His kingdom.

Timeline/Introduce Bible Story:

Remember that the Bible is made up of many different stories, but they all fit together to tell one big story—the story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus. In the New Testament, we see how God sent Jesus to earth in a human body. Jesus spent three years teaching people about God and His kingdom before He died on the cross to rescue people from sin and death. Jesus often told parables, or stories, to help people understand what the kingdom of heaven is like. Last week we saw how Jesus taught that God's growing kingdom is more valuable than anything. Today's Bible story is called "Three Parables."

Let's find out more. **Transition to Bible Story: (OPTIONAL) Show the Bible Story Video.**



15 Min Journey

Where we travel into God's word

Bible Story

Open your Bible to **Luke 15** Read from the Bible or use your storytelling skills to help you tell the story.

Jesus told three parables about things that were lost. First, a shepherd had 100 sheep. When one went missing, he left the 99 to find the missing sheep. When he found it, he celebrated! In the same way, a woman whose coin was lost searched her house until she found it. Then she invited her neighbors to celebrate with her.

In the third parable, how was the younger son lost? Look at Luke 15:12-13. [Allow kids to read the verses and respond.] The younger son made foolish choices and ended up far away from home with nothing. The Bible says when he came to his senses, he decided to go home.

Jesus told these stories to teach us what God is like. God cares about people. He won't ignore or give up on one lost person; He wants everyone to be part of His family. Jesus came to seek and save the lost.



The good news is that Jesus is the mighty friend of sinners! We are all sinners—whether we break the rules or try really hard to obey them—and Jesus wants us to turn away from our sin and trust in Him. The religious leaders complained that Jesus welcomed sinners. Jesus told these parables to teach about God's forgiveness. God sent Jesus so sinners can be forgiven. As Savior, Jesus seeks sinners. He paid the ultimate price—His own life—to save people from sin.

Age Appropriate Story

STORY POINT: JESUS CAME TO SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST.

Jesus told the religious leaders three parables to teach about God. Jesus said, “If a man has 100 sheep and loses one, he leaves the 99 sheep and searches for the lost sheep until he finds it.” Jesus also said, “If a woman has 10 silver coins and loses one of them, she lights a lamp, sweeps the house, and searches carefully until she finds it.”

Jesus told a third story. “A man had two sons. The younger son said, ‘Father, give me my inheritance today.’ So the father did. The younger son left home. He wasted his money and lived foolishly. The younger son decided to go back to his father and admit he was wrong. He would ask to work for his father like the servants.

“His father ran to him, threw his arms around him, and kissed him. The son began to apologize.

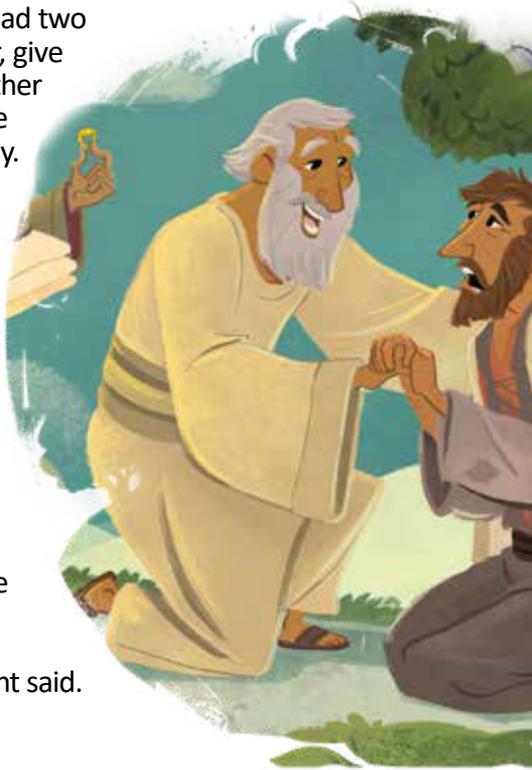
“But the father told his servants, ‘Let’s celebrate with a feast! This son of mine was lost, and now he is found!’

“At this time, the older son came from the fields. ‘What’s going on?’ he asked one of the servants.

“‘Your brother is here,’ the servant said. ‘Your father is celebrating.’

“The older brother was angry!

“‘Son,’ the father said, ‘everything I have is yours. We have to celebrate. Your brother was lost and is found.’”



Christ Connection: *The religious leaders complained that Jesus welcomed sinners. Jesus told these parables to teach about God’s forgiveness. God sent Jesus so sinners can be forgiven. As Savior, Jesus seeks sinners. He paid the ultimate price—His own life— to save people from sin.*

Discussion & Bible Skills

Distribute Bibles. Guide boys and girls to open their Bibles to Luke 15. Then choose a volunteer to read aloud Luke 15:20. When Jesus told these parables, He was teaching in Jerusalem. By telling these stories, Jesus wanted to teach the religious leaders how they should react when someone turns from sin and trusts in Him. The religious leaders tried hard to be good, and they grumbled and complained when people who did not try hard to be good came to Jesus. Lead the group to discuss:

1. **How are we “lost” before we trust in Jesus?** *Lead kids to recognize that being lost means not knowing Jesus as Lord and Savior. The Bible says that apart from Jesus, we are in darkness and are dead in sin. Jesus makes us alive and brings us into His kingdom. He shows us what is true about God and about ourselves. (Option: read Eph. 2:8-9.)*
2. **How does it make you feel that God came looking for you?** *Allow kids to share their feelings. Remind kids that God created us, so He knows us and sees us. He seeks after us because He loves us. (Ps. 139:1-2.)*
3. **What might you say to someone who doesn’t know Jesus?** *Invite kids to share their ideas. Suggest that kids might share their testimonies, or stories of how they came to know and love Jesus. Review the Gospel Plan Poster and encourage kids to remember the five points to summarize the good news about Jesus: God rules, we sinned, God provided, Jesus gives, and we respond. (Option: read 1 Cor. 15:3-4.)*



God’s attributes- helping the children understand what God is like, shown to us in the Bible. In today’s story we see that God is:

-With Us

-Father

Travel Guide:

Use the travel guide for maps, charts, etc... as useful with helping the children learn and understand today’s story.



15 min Flight Lab

Instill Wonder as you experience the Bible
CHOOSE ONE ACTIVITY

Celebrate!

Explain to kids that you are going to make some announcements. Kids should respond to the news according to how excited they are about it (boo/hiss, clap softly, jump and cheer). Read the sample announcements or give your own one at a time, pausing for kids to respond. You may choose volunteers to explain why they reacted in the way they did.

Teachers have decided to have school on Saturdays.

Your parents are going to serve spaghetti for dinner every night this week.

You can eat candy for breakfast.

You are getting a new brother or sister.

Your lost pet has returned home.

- In the Bible story we will hear today, something happened that made a father rejoice and celebrate. But the same news made an older brother upset and angry.

What's missing?

Before the session, collect 15 to 20 various small items and arrange them on a tray. Display the tray for the kids. Encourage them to look at the objects for 30 seconds. Then cover the tray, move it out of sight, and remove one item. Uncover the tray for kids to examine. Challenge the kids to identify which item is missing. Play additional rounds as time allows, removing one or more different items each round.

- Was it easy or difficult to notice what was missing? What if the tray had a hundred items on it? Would you notice if one was missing? Today we hear about a time Jesus told a story of a shepherd who had a hundred sheep. When one went missing, the shepherd noticed!

Key Passage Activity

Before the session, write out the key passage, omitting a single word. Write that word on a sticky note and hide it somewhere in the room. During the session, challenge the kids to identify the word that is missing. Then instruct them to find the word somewhere in the room. When the kids find the sticky note, place it on the board to fill in the blank. Read the key passage a few times together.

Storytelling Studio

Invite kids to work together to retell the Bible story using clay models. If your group is large, form smaller groups and assign each group one of the three parables from Luke 15.

If working as one group, focus on the parable of the lost son from Luke 15:11-32. You may assign roles of narrator, set designers, model builders, and so forth to give each kid a chance to participate.

Allow kids several minutes to design a scene and practice retelling the story, moving their models throughout the scene. Consider providing a digital camera for kids to take photos of each scene. Then invite the group to present.

- Jesus came to seek and save the lost. When someone who was lost trusts in Jesus as Lord and Savior, we should celebrate! The religious leaders complained that Jesus welcomed sinners. Jesus told these parables to teach about God's forgiveness. God sent Jesus so sinners can be forgiven. As Savior, Jesus seeks sinners. He paid the ultimate price—His own life—to save people from sin.

Coin Collecting

Before the session, hide 10 plastic coins in the room. During the session, invite the kids to find the lost coins. You may choose to time them and see how quickly they are able to find all 10.

- Great job finding those coins! Have any of you ever lost money? It can be very frustrating to misplace money. Today we heard about a story Jesus told in which a woman searched her whole house to find just one missing coin out of ten. How would you feel if you found a lost coin?

Sheep Toss

Place a plastic cup on the floor. Instruct the kids to line up about five feet from the cup. You may use tape to mark a line for kids to stand on when taking their turn. Give kids a cotton ball and allow them to take turns tossing their cotton ball to land in the cup. You may award points, such as one point for hitting the cup and three for landing the cotton ball inside the cup.

- Those cotton balls are soft and fluffy, almost like sheep. Today we learned about a shepherd in a story Jesus told. He didn't toss his sheep away but went out in search of a single lost sheep even though he had 99 others that were not lost! Would you do the same to find a lost sheep?



5 min Pilot's log

Where we prepare to depart.

Pray:

If time, share prayer requests and allow kids to record in the **prayer journal section of their *Travel Guide***.

ALWAYS CLOSE THE MORNING WITH PRAYER.

This is how we model incorporating prayer into their lives.

Waiting for parents/Activity Page:

Tie back into the lesson, remind them of the Big Picture Question/verse, etc...

Be sure to **re-set expectations on what their choices are while waiting for mom and dad:**

- Activity page
- Key Passage Activity (See next page for list of options)
- Coloring page
- Gospel Kit Activities
- Anything quiet at the tables you are ok with (*origami, free draw on blank paper, hangman game at white board, putting Book of the Bible cards in order, etc....*)

Be sure that the Co-Pilots hand out the Activity sheet to each child or to parents so they can go home with families.

Key Passage Review Extra Ideas:

Invite kids to sit around tables. Give each kid a pencil. Show the key passage poster and lead them to read it aloud.

Give a piece of paper to one kid at each table. Instruct him to write down the first word of the key passage and pass the paper to the person on his right. That person will write down the second word, pass the paper to her right, and so on. Kids will pass the paper around the table, writing one word at a time until they finish the key passage. When kids finish, invite groups one at a time to say the key passage together.

Display the key passage poster. Lead the kids to read it aloud. Then challenge them to read it in various ways: whispering, shouting, quickly, slowly, and so on.

Form two groups of kids. Call on the first group to say the key passage together. Then call on the second group to say it.

Prompt the first group to say the passage a few phrases at a time, pausing for the second group to echo. When kids finish saying the key passage, lead the second group to begin and the first group to echo.

Instruct kids to sit or stand in a circle. Choose one kid to begin by saying the first word of the key passage. Guide kids to say the key passage, one word at a time, moving around the circle.

Allow kids to look at the key passage poster if they need help remembering the words. Continue around the circle a few times. Consider shouting, "Switch!" and letting kids move to another place in the circle before playing again. *Or toss the ball to different kids rather than go in order.*

Before the session, write out the key passage on a chalkboard or dry erase board in eight separate phrases. Display the phrases where kids can see them. Give each kid a marker and eight craft sticks. Instruct kids to copy from the board, writing each phrase on a separate stick. Then instruct kids to mix up their sticks and then quickly rearrange the phrases in the correct order. Kids may work individually or in pairs. Provide rubber bands for kids to bundle their sticks and keep them as a method of practicing the key passage during the week.

Prayer Extra Ideas:

Prayer Chain—In small groups, ask children/co-pilot to write prayer requests on a few paper strips. Connect paper strips into a chain and display our growing conversation to the Lord. Feel free to revisit older requests as well.

Painted Rocks—Have each child choose a painted rock to write on. Write a word of encouragement, a word about Jesus, a name, etc. The goal is to take it with them and place it somewhere near their typical living space—a neighbor’s house, a store, a playground, etc. Then pray over the place or the people who are there.

Pointing to a Map—Choose one or two kiddos to spin/close their eyes/find a certain color (you can be creative and have fun) and point to a country on the map. Place a pin in the place(s) and pray over it as a group. Even if you don’t know anything about the country, we can lift up the people, pray for Jesus’ light to shine there, the Gospel to be active there, and churches to grow, etc.

Looking out the Window—Grab a dry erase marker, have the kids gather at the windows, and look outside. Ask the children to look for 3 things they can see out of the window to pray over. Using the dry erase marker, write those things on the window (Pre-K & K may draw things) and then pray over those things. Feel free to leave them on the window, so whenever we look through, those things are brought to our mind to pray for again.

Head Shoulders Knees and Toes—Pray through the song.

- Head (mind, imagination, thoughts, creativity)
- Shoulders (physical strength, things we might be dealing with)
- Knees (dancing, playing, jumping, etc.)
- Toes (walking and following after Jesus, standing strong in our faith)
- Eyes, ears, mouth & nose (seeing goodness, listening to Him, speaking truthful words, our senses, etc.)

Preschool Carpet Bag Prayers— Choose an item(s) out of the carpet bag. Discuss the item and different people/things the item could represent (car—driving safely, mechanics, trips, first responders, etc) Encourage kids to “think outside the bag” and help them make connections. Pray over the people, places, and things that were discussed.

You're
ready
for
Sunday!



